

Amendment to Claims

This listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this Application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A PDF-exclusive method for process handling of a PDF image-only data stream which is en route to a printer comprising querying such a PDF data stream to detect, so as to deal with, exclusively therein the presence of a PDF image-only file, on detecting exclusively such a presence, and with respect to PDF image-only data in the detected file, directing solely that image-only data to a full-time dedicated and exclusive, PDF image-only pipeline processing path en route to the printer, and for PDF files that are other than a PDF image-only file, performing with respect to PDF data in such other files conventional PDF handling en route to the printer.

Claim 2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 1, wherein said exclusive directing includes specifically directing the detected, image-only PDF data to a path which includes processing steps involving image-only decoding, and downstream from image-only decoding, rendering for printing.

Claim 3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Apparatus for handling exclusively a PDF image-only data stream which is en route to a printer comprising querying structure for querying a PDF data stream to detect, so as to deal with,

exclusively therein the presence of any image-only block of PDF data, and

operatively connected to said querying structure, and downstream therefrom, (a) PDF-exclusive processing structure which is full-time dedicated to PDF image-only data processing for processing image-only blocks of PDF data, and (b) ancillary processing structure for conventional PDF handling of non-image-only, ancillary PDF data which are other than image-only blocks of PDF data, wherein said querying structure, when querying a PDF data stream that is en route to a printer, deflects solely the image-only PDF data from said processing structure which is provided for conventional PDF handling of non-image-only data to said processing structure which is dedicated solely to the handling of PDF image-only data processing when an image-only block of PDF data is detected.

Claim 4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said PDF-exclusive processing structure which is dedicated to PDF image-only data processing includes image decoding structure, and downstream from said image decoding structure, render-for-printing structure.